

Philadelphia, PA--On Thursday, January 31, Congressman Sestak visited Dave Hanly Inc, a 40-year Collingdale fuel company that now specializes in biofuel production. Congressman Sestak met with Dan Hanly, the owner of the company and toured the company facility in Collingdale. — “With the average price of gasoline over \$3.00 per gallon and the threat of global warming, we must focus our attention on alternative and renewable energy production, as well as research and development,” said Congressman Sestak. “Our dependence on foreign oil is not only detrimental to our economy, environment and health, but it also impacts our national security.”

Biofuels are clean-burning renewable fuels: biodiesel for diesel fueled vehicles, ethanol for gasoline vehicles and bioheating oil for oil heating systems. Biofuels are widely regarded to be cleaner for the environment as well as non-toxic and biodegradable.

Last month, Congressman Sestak voted for the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007 (H.R. 6). The legislation represents an important step in a long-term strategy towards allowing America to achieve greater energy independence by relieving our dependence on foreign oil.

The legislation included important provisions to: 1) raise fuel efficiency of cars and light trucks for the first time in a generation, so that any vehicle must achieve a mileage standard of 35 MPG for highway driving by 2020; 2) require that 36 billion gallons of ethanol and other biofuels be incorporated into gasoline by 2022; and 3) establish a national efficiency standard for light bulbs that will phase out common types of incandescent light bulbs by 2012-2014 in favor of bulbs that are 30 percent more efficient.

For all of its significant advances, Congressman Sestak believes that the legislation could have done more. For instance, H.R. 6 failed to include a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard that would have required electric utilities to produce 15 percent of their power from renewable energy sources by 2020. Additionally, it failed to include an energy tax package that would have repealed \$21 billion in subsidies to five major oil and natural gas companies. This offset would have helped fund the development of alternative energy through the extension of tax credits and incentives for renewable energy from wind, solar, and other clean sources. Finally, H.R. 6 failed to extend the Renewable Energy Electricity Production Tax Credit for four years and to create provisions for energy efficiency in the residential and commercial sectors.

“We can and must do more to dramatically improve and modernize automotive fuel economy standards, promote renewable energy, enhance energy efficiency, reduce pollutants, and boost the production of home-grown renewable energy. This will allow our nation will move toward a cleaner energy future and reduce global warming while generating economic growth and

creating new jobs. It is essential to our future.” said Congressman Sestak.